REMARKS

The Office Action dated October 5, 2006, has been received and its contents carefully noted. In order to advance prosecution, the independent claims have been amended to more clearly define the contribution of the invention over the prior art.

The rejection of claims 1-20 as unpatentable under 35 USC103(a) over Nolting et al (US 6,298,123) in view of Johnson et al (US5,345,595) is respectfully traversed on the grounds that the claims, as now amended, clearly define patentable over any reasonable combination of the teachings of those references.

The present invention provides a solution to the problem of detecting a fraud event in a distributed telecommunications network, based primarily on analyzing records data obtained from different elements in the network, where at least some of these elements are associated each with an entity having a different functionality in the network, and checking the consistency between the data received from these different elements. Whenever it is found that there is an inconsistency between data which applies to the same event but is retrieved from two or more elements, that event will be recognized as a fraud event.

Neither of the applied references refers to such a solution.

Nolting et al discloses collecting call data records(CDRs) and analyzing them but does not teach in any way the basic features of the present invention, namely the collection of data from different elements in the network, belonging to two functional groups, nor does it even suggest

12

that a decision relating to a certain event (e.g. whether the event is a fraud event) can be taken based on the consistency between the data retrieved from different functional groups.

In a similar way, Johnson, which relates to the detection of fraud events, does not suggest any solution similar to that of the present invention. The solution provided by Johnson is based on a comparison of the present behavior of a subscriber with the behavior of that subscriber in the past, and if there is no match, than the present event can be considered as a fraud event. However, Johnson, like Nolting, does not suggest one of the main features of the present invention, namely taking the decision whether a current event is fraudulent, based on different information gathered from different sources.

In particular, the CDRs collected according to Nolting are used as follows: "Analysis of usage and traffic patterns for the current period utilizes the newly collected CDRs (D1). The analysis may compare results from those CDRs and/or the current lists to archived information (D2)(emphasis added), to show incremental changes and long term trends apparent from the interconnect traffic. …The analytical processing of such CDRs enable the LEC … to identify traffic patterns, and in some cases at least, to distinguish different types and levels of service" (col. 10 lines 11 -26). Furthermore, Nolting does not teach the retrieval of information from different elements that belong to at least two functional groups, as the different sources to which the Examiner has referred in the Office Action (col 20. lines 41-60) are protocols associated with the application layer such as TCAP, OMAP, and ISUP.

The method taught by Johnson is described as follows: "The function of the event manager 113 is to perform a number

13

of checks <u>to compare the present CCF record both with past
subscriber specific usage information</u> (emphasis added) and
with certain predetermined conditions to determine whether
this particular CCF record should trigger the even manager 113
to generate an "event". (col. 6 lines 55 – 61).

Thus, each of the independent claims now pending
distinguishes over the applied references by their recitations
relating to obtaining or analyzing data relating to at least
two elements and relating to the same telecommunications
session. In addition, at least claims 3 and 14 further
distinguish by specifying that the data originate in elements
belonging to different functional groups.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that
since each of the two references cited by the examiner, as
well as their combination, rely on comparing information
currently retrieved with past information, they could be
considered at best as teaching away from the present
invention, and should not be considered to render the present
invention obvious.

In view of the foregoing, it is requested that the prior
art rejection be reconsidered and withdrawn, that claims 1-20
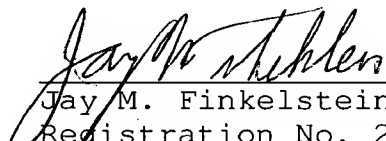be allowed and that the application be found in allowable
condition.

If the above amendment should not now place the application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to call undersigned counsel to resolve any remaining issues.

Respectfully submitted,

BROWDY AND NEIMARK, P.L.L.C.
Attorneys for Applicant

By _____
Jay M. Finkelstein
Registration No. 21,082

JMF:dtb
Telephone No.: (202) 628-5197
Facsimile No.: (202) 737-3528
G:\BN\E\eci\Ronen1\PTO\06FEB06-Amendment.doc